



FAX NEWS

Public Affairs Section
United States Embassy

For more information please contact: Phone: 216-8122, Fax: 216-8622, Av. Arce 2780

18

La Paz, July 19, 2005

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Andean Region visits Bolivia

Charles Shapiro, U.S. Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Andean Region is in Bolivia July 19 and 20 on an official visit. Ambassador Shapiro will meet with President Eduardo Rodriguez and other governmental officials, as well as with opinion leaders, representatives of the civil society, and political parties in La Paz and Santa Cruz. Ambassador Shapiro will be accompanied in his meetings by U.S. Ambassador to Bolivia David Greenlee.

This will be Shapiro's second visit to Bolivia as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for the Andean Region. His first visit was last October. During this visit Ambassador Shapiro will listen to the opinions of Bolivian leaders concerning the political, social, and economic reality in the country. Shapiro was interviewed last week by Andean Region journalists, including Bolivian media representatives, in an online forum.

Ambassador Charles Shapiro has been working in the Foreign Service for over 24 years and has broad experience in Latin American and Caribbean affairs. He served as Deputy Chief of Mission in Chile in 1995, Deputy Chief of Mission in Trinidad and Tobago in 1991, Political Counselor in El Salvador from 1985 to 1988, and more recently as Ambassador of the U.S. to Venezuela in 2002. In Washington, Ambassador Shapiro served as the coordinator for Cuban Affairs in 1999-2001, Executive Assistant to the Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs (1994-1995), Division Chief for South America in the Bureau of International Narcotics Affairs (1990-1991), and also served as Deputy Director in Office of Andean Affairs from 1988 to 1990.